AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of forming an activated lime for the removal of acid gases from a combustion gas stream ~~comprising~~ consisting of;

thermally decomposing calcium hydroxide to produce calcium oxide by contacting the calcium hydroxide with a gaseous stream having a temperature of between 750-950°F for a sufficient time to produce a calcium oxide having a specific surface area of between about 30-48 square meters per gram; and

collecting the calcium oxide so produced for use in contact with a combustion gas stream to remove acid gases therefrom.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of forming an activated lime for removal of acid gases from a combustion gas stream as defined in Claim 1 wherein said temperature is between about 750-850°F.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of forming an activated lime for removal of acid gases from a combustion gas stream as defined in Claim 1 wherein said gaseous stream is a combustion gas stream.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of forming an activated lime for removal of acid gases from a combustion gas stream as defined in Claim 1 wherein said gaseous stream is air.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of forming an activated lime for the removal of acid gases from a combustion gas stream as defined in claim 1 ~~when~~ wherein the specific surface area is between 36-48 square meters per gram.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method of forming an activated lime for the removal of acid gases from a combustion gas stream ~~comprising~~ consisting of;

thermally decomposing calcium hydroxide to produce calcium oxide by contacting the calcium hydroxide with hot air having a temperature of between 750-950°F for a sufficient time to produce a calcium oxide having a specific surface area of between about 30-48 square meters per gram; and

collecting the calcium oxide so produced for use in contact with a combustion gas stream to remove acid gases therefrom.

Claim 7 (Original): the method of forming an activated lime for removal of acid gases from a combustion gas stream as defined in Claim 6 wherein said temperature is between about 750-850°F.

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Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of forming an activatec lime for the removal of acid gases from a combustion gas stream as defined in claim 6 ~~when~~ whe ein the specific surface area is between 36-48 square meters per gram.